

### REMARKS

Claims 1 and 5 – 16 will be pending after entry of the current amendment. Claims 1, 5, and 11 are amended by way of the present amendment. Claims 14 - 16 are newly added. Support for the amended and newly added claims may be found in the originally presented claims and in the Specification, for example, at page 3, lines 6 – 13; page 5, lines 6 – 9; page 5, line 15 – page 6, line 5; page 8, lines 6 – 10; and Examples 2 – 11.

Applicants thank the Examiner for withdrawing the rejection of Claims 1 – 2 and 12 over 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, written description.

#### **I. Election/Restriction**

Applicants thank the Examiner for rejoining and examining Claims 5 – 10 and 13.

#### **II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, indefiniteness**

Claims 1 and 5 – 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Office Action at page 2. In rejecting the claims, the Examiner asserts that “Claims 1, 5 – 8, 11, and by dependence claims 9, 10, 12, 13 are vague and indefinite in the recitation of deletion of at least one gene coding for a quinine oxidoreductase and transhydrogenase and deletion of at least one gene coding for a phosphoglucose isomerase and/or a phosphoreductase.” *Id.*

Applicants disagree with the Examiner’s rejection, but have amended Claims 1, 5, and 11 solely in order to facilitate prosecution. As such, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, are rendered moot and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks above, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance and request favorable action thereon. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if any additional information is required.

Applicants believe that no fees are due. If any additional fees are required, they may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-4254, referencing Attorney Docket No. 2912956-027000.

Respectfully submitted,

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